

JORDAN TIMES

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Lebanon uneasy over Saudi pullout

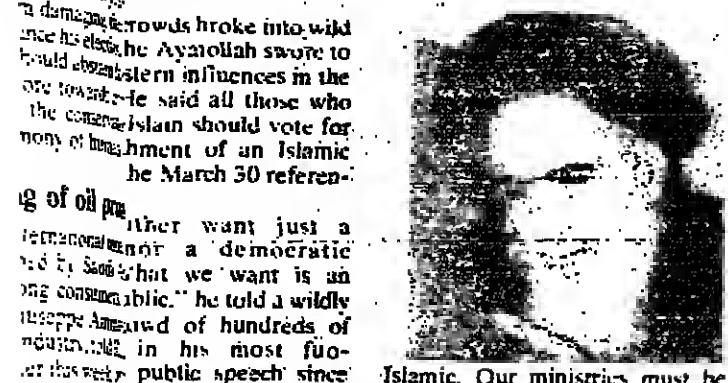
BEIRUT, March 1 (R)—Lebanese leaders are trying to persuade Saudi Arabia to change its decision to withdraw the Saudi contingent serving with the Arab Deterrent Force (ADF) in Lebanon. Arab diplomatic sources said today. They said the Lebanese leaders feared the Saudi pullout would create new problems in Lebanon. Mr. Dany Chamoun, commander of the right-wing National Liberal Party "Tigers" militia, was reported to have said in a newspaper interview published today that the Saudi pullout would be catastrophic. Meanwhile, informed sources said Saudi Charge d'Affaires Abu Bakr Raffi delivered a message from King Khalid to Lebanese President Elias Sarkis today informing him of the withdrawal decision. The 30,000-man Arab force in Lebanon, mainly made up of Syrians, was formed in October 1976 to help put an end to the lengthy civil war in the country. With Sudan and

Greece call for just ME peace

ATHENS, March 1 (R)—Greece and Syria tonight called for a comprehensive peace in the Middle East in accordance with the United Nations resolutions. A joint statement issued at the three-day official visit to Syria by Greek Prime Minister Karamanlis also said that the Greek and Syrian sides at any genuine peace in the Middle East should be based on Israeli withdrawal from Arab territories occupied in 1967. Any such peace should also be based on a recognition of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, the statement said. Any comprehensive settlement should involve all the parties concerned with the Middle East conflict, including the Palestinian people. Mr. Karamanlis left for home today. Syria's President Hafez Al-Assad and Prime Minister Mohamed Ali Al-Fayez have accepted an invitation to visit Greece at a date to be determined.

Stamp of Islam will be all over

IRAN, March 1 (R)—Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini today promised to put the stamp of Islam on everything in Iran from banks to the national flag, to mark his triumphal return to this holy city.



Islamic. Our ministries must be Islamic. Promising to create a "Mohammedan state," Iran's religious leader said a special ministry would be set up outside the government control to wipe out corruption. Iran would have an Islamic flag instead of the green, white and red national one. In another development, United States monitoring from Iran of Soviet military activity today appeared to have come to an end with the dramatic loss of a string of secret American listening posts. The Iranian government indirectly confirmed that a group of U.S. technicians had to be freed in a daring rescue operation after guerrillas stormed their monitoring stations near the Soviet border in Northeast Iran. Informed sources said the guerrillas took over the Kabkan secret installation, 65 kilometres east of the holy city of Mashad, last weekend. They said 20 stranded Americans were rescued by air on Tuesday after Iranian Air Force troops managed to regain control of the base and free the captives. Assistant Prime Minister Amir Entezam told the press that two U.S. officials, accompanied by Iranian government representatives, had flown to Kabkan to bring back the American technicians, who he said were headed over to the U.S. Embassy. Ambassador William Sullivan, whose mission was raided by urban guerrillas last month, called on Foreign Minister Karim Sanjabi today for what the "Voice of the Revolution" radio said were talks on bilateral relations. The rescued technicians later left Tehran aboard an Air France flight for Paris, but declined to make any comment to reporters at the airport. U.S. diplomats were light-hearted about the incident and refused to discuss the elaborate electronic surveillance system, which the United States set up throughout Northern Iran during the Shah's rule. The "Voice of the Revolution" said another U.S. eavesdropping station had been overrun by revolutionary forces at Kalarabad, in the Caspian Sea region. And a British television team reported having visited the Shah Abbas monitoring post at Behshahr, further east, after a panic evacuation by its U.S. personnel. The loss of the Iranian monitoring stations is a major setback for the U.S., western diplomats said. There was no indication that any Americans were captured when any of the other listening stations were seized by revolutionaries. One unconfirmed report said U.S. personnel were evacuated from every station except Kabkan four or five days before last month's anti-Shah uprising. The British Independent Television News (ITN) team said it had found signs of an obvious hurried pullout by the American technicians and their families when they went round the Behshahr base. The crew said the homes of the 30 U.S. technicians were littered with children's toys and personal belongings, showing that the Americans had not even had time to pack. There had not been any looting. The most senior Iranian at the base under the Americans had since been elected base commander by his men, they said.

China says war aims are 'close'

BANGKOK, March 1 (Agencies)—Vietnam today reported large-scale Chinese attacks in its northeastern border province of Lung Son, where a major battle is raging around the strategic provincial capital. In a news flash at the end of its regular English-language broadcast, Radio Hanoi said the Chinese forces were heavily engaged and had suffered big casualties. The radio said 2,700 Chinese troops had been put out of action in two days of fighting on Tuesday and Wednesday and gave a total of 27,000 Chinese casualties since the border fighting began 12 days ago. The battle reports did not specifically mention fighting around the town of Lung Son. But the radio said the Chinese had been badly mauled on highways 1-A and 1-B south of Dong Dang, in the Lung Son area. Radio Hanoi said that in yesterday's action south of Dong Dang, which is near the Friendship Pass, north of Lung Son, 15 Chinese tanks were destroyed and 600 soldiers "wiped out" in heavy fighting. The radio gave reports of fighting in four border provinces yesterday—Lung Son, neighbouring Cao Bang, northwestern Hoang Lien Son and Quang Ninh, in the far northeast. In Hong Kong today, western diplomatic sources said Vietnam had pulled more than 40,000 of its troops out of Kampuchea and Laos. The sources, quoting information from Indochina, said three divisions had been pulled out of Laos and three more from Kampuchea, where Vietnamese-backed insurgents overthrew the Chinese-supported Pol Pot government in January. Vietnam has denied having troops in Kampuchea. In Peking, Chinese Vice-Premier Li Xianmin said today that Peking's forces were close to achieving the goals of the 13-day operation inside Vietnam. Mr. Li told British journalists that China would attack Vietnam again in the future if Hanoi staged provocations on their border. He also said there was no link between Peking's action and the war in Kampuchea and that only "abusive language, bluffing" was expected from the Soviet Union.

Scots vote ties with Kingdom

GLASGOW, March 1 (R)—Scotland and Wales voted in separate referendums on Sunday to accept separate parliaments, but to remain part of the United Kingdom. The results of the two referendums were announced by the British government today. In Scotland, 69 per cent of the electorate voted in favour of a separate Scottish parliament, while 79 per cent of the electorate in Wales voted in favour of a separate Welsh assembly. The results were a significant victory for the pro-independence forces in both regions. The Scottish National Party (SNP) led by James Douglas won a landslide victory in the Scottish referendum, securing 55 of the 60 seats in the Scottish Parliament. In Wales, the Welsh Nationalist Party (WNP) led by Iwan Iwan Rhys-Idris won 10 of the 15 seats in the Welsh Assembly.

Arab conference to discuss energy

ABU DHABI, March 1 (R)—The first Arab energy conference opens here on Sunday to review present and future Arab prospects in the field of energy ranging from oil to solar power. A number of Arab ministers and experts will read papers on several subjects of energy, including atomic energy, at the four-day conference. But views on one conference subject—towards optimum Arab energy policies in production and pricing—would be of special interest to an oil-hungry world which is going through yet another oil price and supply upset because of the Iranian revolution. Some Arab producers are charging more for their oil but are not willing to increase output to fully relieve the shortage caused by a halt in Iranian oil exports. Iran, whose daily exports averaged five million barrels a day, has said it will resume exports on March 5 but this will be far below the previous level. The conference has been sponsored jointly by the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC), the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development and the

End to Yemen fighting sought by Arab envoys

ADEN, March 1 (Agencies)—South Yemeni President Abdul Fatah Ismail today received Jordanian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hassan Ibrahim who handed him a message from His Majesty King Hussein. The Jordan News Agency (JNA) said the message included King Hussein's "concern" over the weeklong border fighting between North and South Yemen and his hope that "a solution is found to the crisis between the two brotherly Yemenis." The South Yemeni President also received two presidential envoys of Iran and Syria, who arrived in Aden as part of an Arab effort to stop the fighting. The Syrian Deputy Premier for Economic Affairs, Jamil Shayya, and Iraqi Planning Minister Adnan Hussain carried a joint message from Iraqi President Ahmed Hassan Al-Bakr and Syrian President Hafiz Al-Assad to President Ismail. The three envoys later returned to Sana'a "to report to North Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh on the results of their mission in Aden and the possibility of achieving an end to the fighting between the two countries", JNA said. South Yemen's Communications Minister Mahmoud Abdullah is due in Amman Friday with a message to King Hussein from President Ismail, JNA reported today. Earlier today, South Yemen accused Saudi Arabia of bias in the border conflict between North and South Yemen. A cabinet statement said that Saudi Arabia "instead of seeking to contain the problem", comes up with a statement showing bias. It gives the impression that it is interfering in the internal affairs of the Peoples Democratic Republic of Yemen. The statement, issued after a cabinet meeting, was apparently referring to a four-point Saudi peace plan offered two days ago to end the week-old Yemeni conflict. The Saudi plan called for an immediate ceasefire and withdrawal of border forces. It also urged that support to rebels should stop and an Arab committee be set up to implement the plan. The South Yemeni statement said that while the government sent delegations to Arab countries, including Saudi Arabia, to try to contain the problem and create stability, "pre-conditions are sprung upon us by Saudi Arabia which could only aggravate the situation." The government said it was prepared to respond to any Arab mediation effort and to attend the Arab League emergency meeting in Kuwait on Sunday. The League meeting was originally called for by North Yemen and South Yemen promptly agreed to attend. There were no reports today of any fighting. In Saudi Arabia, the government continued its diplomatic contacts with other Arab governments. But there were no other moves after yesterday's Defence Ministry order cancelling all military leave in the wake of the Yemeni border fighting.

PLO team ends Amman visit

AMMAN, March 1 (Agencies)—A Palestine Liberation Organisation delegation today ended a three-day visit to Jordan and returned by road via Ramtha to Damascus. The delegation, led by the head of PLO's Political Department Farouk Kaddoumi met with His Majesty King Hussein, Prime Minister Mudar Badran and other Jordanian officials for talks on the latest Middle East situation and conditions of Arab citizens in the occupied territories. In a statement before departure, Mr. Kaddoumi described his talks in Jordan as "fruitful and successful." The Jordan News Agency (JNA) reported. The PLO delegation was seen off at Ramtha by Minister of Information, Acting Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Adnan Abu Odeh and several other Jordanian officials. Earlier today, Mr. Kaddoumi confirmed that PLO leader Yasser Arafat is expected to visit Jordan shortly. In an interview with the Jordan Times, Mr. Kaddoumi said: "We are proud of the heroic acts and steadfastness of our people in the West Bank. They are the pillar of our struggle, and we are doing the impossible to reach them. God willing, the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue will usher in an era in which we will be closer to them." Mr. Kaddoumi told the Jordan Times. "They are our brethren, their steadfastness fosters our faith and their struggle keeps our cause alive. There can be no homeland without a people, and no people without steadfastness," he added. Speaking at a meeting attended by more than 100 Palestinian personalities from the occupied West Bank of Jordan and the Gaza Strip, as well as others from Amman, Mr. Kaddoumi did not mention a specific date for Mr. Arafat's visit, but Palestinian sources said it was likely to take place within the next two weeks. Mr. Kaddoumi arrived in Amman on Tuesday for talks on what was described by Jordanian and Palestinian sources as a general review of the Middle East situation and possible cooperation in the political field on both Arab and international levels. Mr. Kaddoumi said his visit to Amman, the first since 1971, went well and predicted that more delegations would continue to come to Jordan for further talks. The PLO was now in a state of "resurgence" following the Camp David accord between Egypt and Israel, the plots being hatched in the area and after the Iranian revolution "which has upset the balance of American Middle East policies," he said. "Our meetings with the brothers in Jordan are but a part of this resurgence. We shall stand united against aggressions and plots," he told his audience. Mr. Kaddoumi said his organisation was now trying to gain "friends everywhere, especially in the United States and Europe." "But our fingers should remain on the trigger as this is a basic factor (for the success of Palestinian struggle) which should go hand in hand with political action," he added. Reiterating his organisation's rejection of the Middle East peace initiative by President Anwar Sadat of Egypt, Mr. Kaddoumi said "President Sadat has destroyed all international efforts to achieve peace in the region." Now that Iran stood by the side of the Palestinian struggle, the PLO was trying to gain the support of Turkey, Mr. Kaddoumi said.

Omanis lavish welcome on Queen Elizabeth

NIZWA, Oman, March 1 (R)—Cheering Omanis leapt across crowd barriers and surged round Queen Elizabeth during a royal walkabout today. The Queen stepped out after touring the shaded souk (market) in this ancient fortress town and found a narrow square thronged with more than 1,000 people. The white-robed townsfolk pressed against the ring of armed police escorting the Queen and her host, Sultan Qaboos Bin Sa'id. In a speech last night at a banquet for the Queen, Sultan Qaboos paid a soldier's tribute to some 20 Britons killed fighting rebels in Southern Dhofar province, which borders South Yemen. "We Omanis are accustomed to measure a man by his deeds, not by his words," said the Sultan, a graduate of Britain's Sandhurst military academy, who retains several hundred Britons in his armed forces. Queen Elizabeth praised Oman as a "valiant country." The Queen, here on the last stage of her 19-day Middle East tour, said Britain was glad to help the Omani armed forces, which use British weapons and have up to 500 Britons serving with them. Queen Elizabeth recalled that treaty links between Britain and Oman went back nearly 200 years and that one accord pledged them to be friends "till the sun and moon have finished their revolving career." The Queen flew to Nizwa, Oman's capital in the eighth century, and saw the stone and mud fortress. Then she walked through the souk where they sell everything from frankincense and pungent spices to soap flakes. Then the Queen drove off for a desert picnic past groves of date palms and mango trees. She later returned to Muscat, the modern capital, flying over some of the most rugged mountain scenery in the Middle East. Like the Queen's other hosts on the Gulf tour, Sultan Qaboos lavished treasure on her. The centrepiece of his gifts was a wide, thick bowl of solid gold. The Sultan, who delights in martial music, is expected to honour Queen Elizabeth and her husband, the Duke of Edinburgh, with a military parade before they leave for London tomorrow.

Slim outlook for Carter, Begin talks

WASHINGTON, March 1 (R)—President Carter, openly frustrated and disgusted by the deadlock in peace treaty negotiations between Israel and Egypt, was reported ready to talk bluntly at his meetings starting later tonight with Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin. As Mr. Begin headed to Washington U.S. officials said the hard-line signals he had already sent were not encouraging. Adding to the President's impatience with Israel over its position in the negotiations was the omission of key Israeli officials from Mr. Begin's party. U.S. officials said the White House was deeply concerned that Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan and Defence Minister Ezer Weizman had been left at home. Mr. Dayan and Mr. Weizman, who have handled much of the negotiations with Egypt, are regarded as the most flexible members of Israel's cabinet. Concern over their absence persisted despite a statement by Israeli Labour Party leader Shimon Peres that Israel had closed ranks in the face of U.S. pressure for concessions by Mr. Begin. "Israel can resist American pressure," Mr. Peres told a news conference in Paris this morning. U.S. officials said President Carter, having expended so much time and effort on the Middle East, was ready to go "another mile" with Mr. Begin to try to end the stalemate. But he would tell the Prime Minister that the future in the Middle East would be dangerous and unpredictable unless Israel made an effort to bridge what the U.S. leader has called "absolutely insignificant" problems in negotiations with Egypt. The White House yesterday denied reports from Tel Aviv quoting Foreign Minister Dayan as saying the United States would reassess its policies in the Middle East—meaning Israel—unless a peace treaty was concluded within 10 days. U.S. officials were surprised that Mr. Begin alluded to the reports by saying before he left for Washington: "Neither 10 days nor 10 weeks, we have no time limit." Mr. Begin earlier this week differed sharply with President Carter's judgement—later endorsed by Egyptian Prime Minister Mustapha Khalil—about insignificant differences in the talks with Egypt. The Israeli leader said the problems were grave and Egypt had hardened its position in discussions between Dr. Khalil and Mr. Dayan last month at Camp David, the U.S. President's Maryland retreat. Mr. Begin refused to attend a modified summit meeting—with Mr. Carter and Dr. Khalil but without Egyptian President Anwar Sadat—suggested by the American President last week. He said Egypt's demands were nullifying agreements reached at the Camp David talks he held last September with Mr. Carter and the Egyptian president. Last night government spokesmen denied that Mr. Dayan had said time was working against Israel. But they had no comment on the general content of the broadcast. At Mr. Begin's departure today, Mr. Dayan did not specifically deny that the United States had talked about possible policy reassessments.

China says war aims are 'close'

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What's going on?

IT'S HARD TO TELL exactly where the present to-ing and fro-ing by the United States, Israel and Egypt over a peace treaty is going to lead. Most Arab observers confidently expect, however, that a treaty will be signed, sooner rather than later.

That clearly suits American purposes, and that is why President Carter is once again engaged in the unattractive business of knocking Israeli and Egyptian heads together. Egypt -- that is to say, President Sadat, whom he in fact designates to speak for him -- is more or less standing pat on its insistence on a meaningful linkage between the treaty and the future of the Palestinians. That position, and Mr. Sadat's continuing collaboration with the American-orchestrated peace effort, is still no less fraught with peril for him: nothing has occurred since the Baghdad Summit last year to lessen legitimate Arab concerns about the negative impact an Egyptian-Israeli treaty would have on the Arab search for a just peace.

The fact that events in Iran have made Egypt more indispensable than ever to the U.S., as not only a negotiating partner but a protector of American interests in the Middle East, does nothing to allay Arab concerns: neither does the fact that Iran has, in the Western view, dramatically heightened Israel's vulnerability and therefore reduced its willingness to compromise while at the same time making it more susceptible to American pressure -- exorable, once again, in the name of protecting Western interests in this region.

Let there be any lingering doubts about precisely what is going on, particularly in view of the unbelievable naivete which Washington is displaying in this whole process, President Carter has stepped forward with a startlingly frank statement. In a speech to American state governors on Tuesday night, Mr. Carter said:

"...If the negotiations are delayed, my guess is that it will become increasingly difficult for Sadat to stand in limbo where he is not part of the cohesive Arab World and he is apparently not making any progress in finding peace with Israel, he might be inclined to withdraw from the negotiations and go back and re-establish himself as part of the Arab world in a cohesive sense of brotherhood. So that is why we have been so insistent on trying to bring the talks to a conclusion."

The juxtaposition of those thoughts, unedited in the excerpt above, is as clear an indication as we will ever get that the U.S. is prepared actively to undermine Arab unity in order to secure an unbalanced and imperfect "peace" in the Middle East. President Carter is thus rejecting the overtures which interests basically friendly to the United States in this region have been making to him over the past few months -- overtures which have sought to impress on him the absolutely irreducible necessity of seeing that all the parties concerned play an equal role in any moves towards peace.

It is only by recognising the validity of this Arab consensus that the U.S. can ever hope even to have any interests in this region to protect.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

Jordanian newspapers Thursday say Jordan was compelled to raise oil prices in view of the continued hike of oil prices in the world.

The newspapers were commenting on the Jordanian government's decision on Wednesday to raise the retail prices of various kinds of fuel substantially as from March 1.

AL RA'I says that in spite of the agreement among the Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) during its last meeting to increase oil prices by 14.5 per cent in stages over this year, most of the oil producing states have recently increased their oil prices individually above the agreed-upon rates, in order to "lace up to the greediness of oil companies which earn fantastic profits."

AL DUSTOUR says that everybody knows that the decision to raise oil prices in Jordan was lousesome to both government and consumer, but it should be viewed with objectivity and reasonableness in view of the compelling circumstances that caused the increase.

The two newspapers recalled that the Jordanian treasury had allocated some JD 18 million last year to be spent on keeping the fuel prices within a reasonable level in the interest of the consumer. Al Ra'i and Al Dustour called upon the people of Jordan to help in economising in fuel consumption as much as possible.

In his daily column "Words" in Al Ra'i Juma'a Hammad expresses concern lest the continued fighting between North and South Yemen leads to foreign armed intervention. He appeals to the Arab countries' leaders to take prompt and effective measures to prevent this fratricidal war from further escalating.

Mr. Hammad points to the Saudi government's decision to put its armed forces on the alert, and the U.S. government's decision to increase the amount of its urgent arms supplies to North Yemen. Both decisions were in an apparent bid to bolster the San'a regime against South Yemen.

On the other hand Mr. Hammad draws the attention that the Cuban military experts and troops are stationed in nearby Ethiopia. He also recalls that U.S. Secretary of Defence Harold Brown recently threateningly emphasised America's readiness to defend its oil resources in the Middle East. The arrival of the first Cuban soldier in Aden would give the U.S. the pretext to interfere directly in South and North Yemen alike and possibly in the whole Arabian peninsula, Mr. Hammad thinks.



His Highness Prince Hassan discusses economic cooperation with Italian Minister of Foreign Trade Rinaldo Ossola (centre) and the Italian Ambassador, Marchese Fabrizio Rossi Longhi, Thursday.

Prince Hassan discusses joint projects with Italian trade minister

AMMAN, March 1 (JNA) -- His Highness Crown Prince Hassan and the visiting Italian Minister of Foreign Trade Rinaldo Ossola discussed here today prospects for trade exchange and economic cooperation between Italy and Jordan. The Crown Prince expressed Jordan's interest in launching joint economic projects with Italy and expressed Jordan's willingness to open the door for foreign investment in Jordan particularly in the industrial free zones that are being set up in the country.

The Italian minister said his country would be interested in joint projects particularly those in the field of transport, communications, mining and the assembly of agricultural tractors. The meeting was attended by the Minister of Industry and Commerce Dr. Nijmeddin Dajani and

the Italian Ambassador to Jordan Marquis Fabrizio Rossi Longhi.

The Italian minister and his accompanying delegation, who arrived here last night, had met earlier with Dajani and discussed with him prospects for launching joint industrial projects. Taking part in the meeting were the Under-secretary of the Ministry of Industry and Commerce Hassem Al Dabbas and the Italian ambassador.



A large crowd prays for rain at Um Al Hiran, near the radio station south of Amman, Thursday.

Crowds pray for rain

AMMAN, March 1 (JNA) -- A prayer for rain was held here this afternoon in which Minister of

Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Kamel Al Sharif and a large crowd of people took part. The service was conducted at Um Al Hiran about

10 kms south of Amman. Similar prayers were said in all other parts of the Kingdom in view of the shortage of rain this winter.

National News Roundup...

Cabinet names three state award winners

AMMAN, March 1 (JNA) -- Three winners of the 1978 state awards for history, literature and art were named by the Cabinet today. The decision was made upon the recommendation of Minister of Culture and Youth Sharif Fawwaz Sharaf. Dr. Mahmoud Abu Taleh will receive the cash prize for history for his book "Antiquities of Ancient Jordan and Palestine: A New Perspective, 1952-1977." The book deals with the history of the region and includes analysis of findings by archaeologists who had worked in the area. Dr. Fawwaz Touqan will receive half the cash prize for literature for his anthology of poems entitled "The Lake: Six Attempts to Describe the Sunset." His poems inspired from American Indian legends are considered a new trend in Arabic poetry. The artist Yaser Al Duweik will receive half the fine arts cash prize for his paintings.

Iraq donates JD 5,000 to build mosques

AMMAN, Mar. 1 (JNA) -- Iraq today donated the sum of JD 5,000 for the construction of mosques in Jordan. A cheque for the sum was handed by the Iraqi ambassador here Madouli Naji Al Mihiana to the central committee for the affairs of mosques. Iraq has promised to make annual contributions of JD 5,000 towards the construction of mosques in Jordan.

Arab civil aviation affairs meeting to be held on March 13

AMMAN, March 1 (JNA) -- The Vice-President of Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline, Mr. Nasri Jume'lan said here yesterday preliminary talks are being held with other Arab National airlines prior to the forthcoming meeting here of the higher committee for Arab civil aviation affairs on March 13.

Mr. Jume'lan, who is in charge of Alia's flight operations, said that Arab airlines' technical sub-committees were formed during the last meeting of the higher committee in Baghdad for the purpose of facilitating air traffic between Arab states.

TIME

The World Newsmagazine

Read in this week's issue....

VIETNAM WAR (China and Hanoi clash as world worries)

IRAN STRUGGLE (Power battle shapes up amid instability)

AMIN IN TROUBLE? (Rebellion brewing in Uganda)

MIDEAST TALKS (Camp David could lead to peace)

New Upper House members take oath of office

AMMAN, March 1 (JNA) -- The speaker and members of the new Upper House of Parliament were sworn in yesterday at a special session. At the outset of the session the Royal decree forming the new House was read and later House Speaker Bahjat Talhouwi read to the members the minutes of the previous session. During the session the members approved the election of Mr. Sa'd Juma'a as first deputy spokesman of the house; Ahmad Touqan, second deputy; Adul Rahman Khalifa was elected as first assistant and Hashem Al Jayousi as second assistant to the speaker. The members also elected Riyad Al Mufleh, Ali Hindawi and Ahmad Al Khalil as members of the legal affairs committee which will be entrusted with explaining provisions of the constitution.

Aqaba government office hours to change

AMMAN, Mar. 1 (JNA) -- Office hours at government departments and public institutions in Aqaba have been fixed from 7:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m., according to an official communiqué by the Prime Ministry. The new arrangement to take effect as of Saturday March 3, is because of the hot weather in Aqaba.

WHAT'S GOING ON

Photo Exhibit

The French Cultural Centre is displaying a photo exhibit on "80 Years of French Cinema" during regular hours.

French Film

The French Cultural Centre presents a film by Claude Miller entitled "La meilleure façon de marcher" starring Patrick Dewaere, at 7:30 p.m. French version with Arabic subtitles.

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Whose Islam?

By Edward W. Said

NEW YORK -- In times of trouble, certain characteristics of predominantly Moslem countries are emphasised in the news media, others disappear. Consider Iran. Until the Shah's "stable" regime collapsed, phrases like "non-Arab" and "Indo-European" were routinely used to express approval of Iran; now of course the adjective "Islamic" recurs numbly, and with it hints of a sinister "Islamic resurgence," railing anti-Semitism, reactionary fundamentalism, totalitarianism. For "Islam" is a concept that can readily be used to compel vast reaches of Africa and Asia into the stereotype of a scimitar-waving mass of people (even if the adjective "Christian" is studiously not used to describe unsavoury Latin-American regimes.)

Accordingly, the Jan. 7 issue of the Manchester Guardian Weekly carried the headline "Islam and a Swathe of Instability," and, never to be outdramatized, Time followed with its cover story "Crisis of Crisis."

Moslems do refer to themselves as Moslems but the context in which they use the word is rarely so trans-national and indiscriminate as it might seem. Islam has produced 70-odd sects, numerous cultures, dozens of nations and polities.

Because it is unlikely that an Ibadhi Moslem in East Africa would have much in common with a member of the China Islamic Association, or that Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's political ideas would jibe with those of the Algerian 'Aliwiyya order during the 20s, rather than so simple a label as "Islam" one would do better to use a more refined term.

A good candidate would be "Islamdom," the neologism coined by the late Marshall Hodgson, who taught Islamic culture at the University of Chicago, to designate the religion's enormous scope, if not its every detail. Nevertheless, the simple label has been and still is useful -- when its meaning has indicated either a Western inability to control large swatches of nonwhite, non-Christian territories in Asia and Africa, or when "Islam" has furnished the Christian West with a favourite demon.

Islam's supposed militancy (col-

Edward W. Said, professor of English at Columbia University, is the author of "Orientalism." This article is reprinted from the New York Times, Jan. 29, 1979.

lectively reinforced by generations of European experts on Islam, "Orientalists") thus emerges to blot out the complicating record of such "Islamic" achievements as Andalusian culture, Arabic science and mathematics, Persian ornamental art, the intricate discipline of Koranic interpretation, Abbasid skill in political administration, the urban genius of cities like Nishapur, Iran, the splendid eclecticism of Mughal courts in India. Lists like this could be extended indefinitely.

Why then do we continue to obliterate the specific "Islamic" reality (another Hodgson phrase) -- say that of Iran as distinguished from the world of Indonesian Persatuan Islam -- so that a sense of general confrontation with "Islam" might be promoted instead?

For decades, Europeans and Americans (like members of all cultures) have imposed reassuring intellectual order on a too-diverse, little-known Orient and Africa by means of large labels: Islam, the Orient, the "yellow peril," the "black hordes," etc. A modern locus classicus is the book "Defense of the Occident" by Henri Massis, published in 1927. You defend against the teeming non-European world by trying to make it work in a distant framework provided by you, and never mind the details.

This strategy, however, has usually led to more difficulty. When you can make countries such as Iran or Lebanon seem to fit your ideas of what they are, then you will one day inevitably stand aggressively against intransigent native realities.

Invariably, as Frantz Fanon, the radical theorist of anti-imperialist revolt, argued, the native response to imperial domination is then to fall back on what is authentic is provocatively resistant to an invading force (plus local agents) calling itself "modernisation."

Hence, since the mosque is the only place not violated by "modernisation," or a mission civilisatrice, Algerian women have recourse to veiling themselves, Iranian masses turn to the mullahs.

for leadership. In one sense, course, this is a return to Islam. Yet the Westerner's counter-response now seems to be the retrograde "Islamic" shock, opposed by good liberal ground as it did not matter that "Moslems" had only "Islam" turn to, as if what mattered was "Islam" and not the local abuses that made it so prominent.

Perhaps the main problem seems uncritically accepted as of progress and modernity. A huge majority in the non-West world, these notions have been cover for foreign tyrannies in some local economies, where a ruler, a state or a regime socio-economic apparatus of convenience is that he or she rules the region's wealth and/or foreign lands.

Ayatollah Khomeini's instance, has expressed the political objections to the since 1960, as the Berkeley Islamic Hamid Algar pointed in 1970. Yet because we cannot deliver, a crisis of commitment to be a national symbol of progress, anything becomes equivalent to a holy politics, not worth setting a tempo to. How can we fight robbery and torture are paid everyone, and how can we assume that Moslems, any less French "Christians," will overthrow an unjust social.

Is the most important thing an oppressed peasant does he is a Moslem (or, for that, a Christian) or that oppressed?

Like universal Arab opposition to the Camp David accord, apparent epidemic of American feeling in the World exemplifies not a Communist plot or being damnable as our main grasp the truth that the symbols can be exposed, the more of exported in such forms as put together in the Mayan monarchs created by the Intelligence Agency, in names for "modern Islamic World."

In this light, a sign unarmed F-15 fighters by President Carter, Arabia seems a bad absurd idea and signals appropriate even for Islam.

Jordanian press tea visits Damascus

DAMASCUS, March 1 (JNA) -- Cooperation between Jordan and Syria in the field of information was discussed when Syrian Minister of Information Ahmad Iskander Abmaq met with Jordanian

Director of Press Affairs Ahmad Al and President of Association Rakan here today.

Mr. Iskander stressed the necessary full support to coordination and integration between the two in all fields, particularly use of the mass media service of Arab countries.

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Our "What's going on" section needs YOUR help if it is going to be a success. It is the sum of your ideas, your contributions, your meetings and outings that are open to the public which appear in "What's going on." Help us to help you publicise your public events. Charity bazaar, school open days, concerts, community activities -- our readers are interested in your event. Please write us at P.O. Box 6716, telephone 67171 or even call us at our office on the Amman-Swedish road between 16:00 and 18:00 p.m. and tell us what's going on. The Jordan Times will publish free listings on the day of the event.

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benefit from new numbering scheme

By Alan Martiny
Special to the Jordan Times

According to Mr. Jutkowski, one day all of the mail will be processed automatically through the central post office on the basis of the first three digits. All those with 111 will be sent automatically to Amman, 131 to Zarqa and so forth. Each city will then sort its mail according to the next two digits—the section code. The

The Amman central post office will take all those letters with section code 81 and send them to the Jabal Amman post office. Each branch office will have a troop of mailmen who will deliver the mail to the house. They will be able to do this on the basis of the last four

Of course this final stage of door-to-door deliveries will require a bit of time to implement, but it is one of the goals of the programme.

The advantages with respect to the postal service are very great. For one thing, each house will become like a post box. Whereas now the country has a very limited number of post boxes available, every home will be able to have its post delivered directly to the door.

But although improving the postal service and unifying the numbering codes is a major benefit, that is not the main aim of the system. The system is mainly designed to help the Department of Statistics with its job of acquiring accurate data.

The Department of Statistics, responsible for providing data information on population, land use, etc., was facing a massive problem with the high level of movement in the country and the lack of a working system for locating homes and areas.

In the future, addressing letters to persons within Jordan will only involve writing the individual's name and a nine-digit number such as the one displayed on this residence.

Jordan, at the request of the Department of Statistics, appealed to the United Nations

"Once numbered each parcel will be fixed with a plate," Mr. Jurkowski added. "Also in the villages you will be able to see on the plate the locality and the house number."

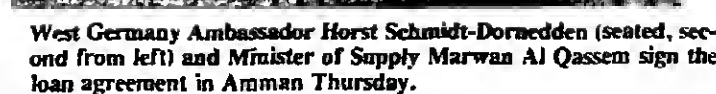
The system should also be unified, involving all aspects of public affairs: economy, adminis-

Tomorrow: Numbering and Naming in Amman

Medium and high clouds will cover the sky and winds will be southerly moderate to fresh with dusty conditions prevailing. Temperatures will be above normal. In Aquila Gulf there will be dusty weather, northerly moderate winds and calm seas.

Medium and high clouds will cover the sky and winds will be southerly moderate to fresh with dusty conditions prevailing. Temperatures will be above normal. In Aquila Gulf there will be dusty weather, northerly moderate winds and calm seas.

Temperatures	Overnight minimum	Daytime maximum
Amman	6	25
Aqaba	11	29
Jordan Valley	13	28
Deserts	5	26



AMMAN, Mar. 1 (JNA)—West Germany is to grant Jordan a loan totaling 500,000 marks to finance consultative services, according to memos signed between the two sides here today. The loan will cover consultants' services for the management and operation of a flour mill owned by the Ministry of Supply. The memos were signed by the Minister of Supply Marwan Al Qassem and West German Ambassador to Jordan Dr. Horst Schmidt-Dornedden.

AMMAN. March 1 (JNA)-Today is the 25th anniversary of the "Arabisation" of the Jordanian Armed Forces. On that date, March 1, 1956, His Majesty King Hussein dispensed with the services of the then Chief of Staff of the Jordanian Army, Lt. Gen. John Bagot Glubb, and several other British army officers. The Jordan army command was given to a Jordanian officer.

Later in 1956 Jordan abrogated the Jordanian-British mutual defence treaty, a decision which also meant doing without British

financial assistance and relying on Jordan's own resources and aid from Arab countries.

AMMAN ST

NAME OF COMPANY

financial assistance and relying on Jordan's own resources and aid from Arab countries.

NAME OF COMPANY	Par Value	Volume Traded	Last Buying Offer	Last Selling Offer	Closing Price
Jordan Petroleum Co.	JD 5,000	5,987	6,600	6,580	6,580
Jordan Cement Factories	JD 10,000	1,037	—	14,400	14,400
Jordan Phosphate Mines	JD 1,000	2,051	—	—	2,180
Jordan-Gulf Bank	JD 1,000	100	1,020	1,010	1,010
Dar Aldawa Development and Investment Co.	JD 1,000	200	2,000	1,970	2,000
Jordan Electricity Co.	JD 1,000	1,453	1,350	1,340	1,350
Jordan Ceramic Industries	JD 1,000	1,219	940	920	940
Jordan Glass Factories	JD 1,000	288	740	720	720
Jordan Tanning Co.	JD 5,000	135	—	—	9,000
Jordan Lime and Silicate Brick Industries Co.	JD 5,000	914	—	—	4,570
Bank of Jordan Co.	JD 5,000	1,522	7,250	7,200	7,250
Arab Investment Bank	JD 1,000	106	—	1,050	1,060
Cairo-Amman Bank Co.	JD 5,000	473	6,570	—	6,570
The Arab International Hotels Co.	JD 1,000	603	720	700	710

Total volume traded, Thursday, March. 1: JD 16,890
Total number of shares traded: 6,347

	Par Value	Volume Traded	Number Traded	Year of Maturity	Selling Price
Government Development Bonds	JD 5,000	10,27	205	1979	5.010
	JD 5,000	592	114	1980	5.200
	JD 5,000	354	70	198h	5.070
Total volume traded: JD 3935	JD 10,000	122	12	1988	10.200
Total number of bonds traded: 578	JD 10,000	1,840	177	1988	10.400

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(HMA)-Application of

their names at the ministry. He said he hopes that salesmen will comply with the fixed rate of 30 per cent profit on import cost.

Two hundred and fifteen cars spare parts salesmen had already registered their names with the ministry.

The Jordan Times can accept classified advertisements that are sent in by mail and accompanied full payment in cash. Readers and advertisers who cannot conveniently bring their advertisements to the Jordan Times office or to an advertising agency office in Amman may send in their ads by mail the following conditions :

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Advertisements are not accepted over the telephone or telex, and guaranteed insertions on specific dates can only be assured by sending in the advertisements so they reach the Jordan Times office at least two days before the required day of publication.

For the minimum price of JD 3, the advertiser will have published an advertisement of three centimetres on two columns, which will have a maximum of 30 words, including the headline and telephone numbers to be called. The JD 3 charge is for one insertion; two insertions cost JD 6, three insertions cost JD 9, etc.

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(Use one word only per box - - please print)

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END OF _____.

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Deaf children get another chance

Text and photos
by Marianne Pearson
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN—"We are off to a good start," said Miss Laurice Hlass, executive secretary of the Queen Alia Society for the Hearing Impaired. "Only a little over a year ago the Society was founded."

The Queen Alia Society was officially registered with the Ministry of Labour and Department of Social Affairs at the end of January 1978. Today 16 teachers of the deaf are being trained at its new Centre. An agreement was made with the government to run jointly a centre for the deaf in Ruseifeh.

"The trainers are three Italian experts," Miss Hlass said. "They are teaching theory with the help of two Jordanian translators who know Italian. To provide trainees with practical experience there are three classes, with a total of 20 hearing-impaired children. Eventually as teachers are trained we will expand the Centre so that we will be able to teach 100 children, boarding and day students, up to

the age of 16.

"Jordanians have been very generous—they responded beautifully both in terms of money and kind to help us start off. Arab and other embassies are enthusiastic. We have already heard from the Kuwait embassy which would like to help. The British are sending an expert on a two weeks' exploratory visit to see what we need. Last summer the Italian government sent us an authority on teaching the deaf to study our needs. They have sent three experts and also equipment to start us off."

"Last month we inaugurated a six-month training course. Later we will choose some of the trainees to send to Italy for specialised training. We have long lists of children who need help, but first we have to train the teachers," Miss Hlass said.

An exact census of the deaf in Jordan has not been completed, but the number of hearing-impaired people who might profit by the work of the Centre is estimated to be high. Eventually the Centre plans to use mobile units to reach the hearing-impaired in remote villages.

In Amman there are two

schools for the deaf—Al Raja'a, a private school, and Al Amal, a government institution in Al Quaismeih. Each has two teachers being trained at the Queen Alia Centre. In Zerka there is also a public school for the deaf and in Salt there is a missionary school for the deaf.

"The Centre has a harmonious relationship with the Department of Social Welfare. Our government board is made up of three members from the Society and three from the Department. We have added two other members to the board—the Ministry of Health physician who specializes in ear and throat problems and the Mayor of Ruseifeh," Miss Hlass said.

Two members of the Society represent it on the Queen Alia Fund for Social Service, presided over by Her Royal Highness Princess Basma, which coordinates work for the deaf in Jordan: Mrs. Hanan Baha'uddin Touqan, the Society's president, and Miss Hlass.

Teachers at the Centre are civil servants paid by the Department of Social Affairs. To get well-

qualified people, the Society pays them an additional 40 per cent above their basic salary.

"We are ambitious," Miss Hlass said. "We would like, hopefully, to embark on the bigger project that Queen Alia herself had wanted to do in Jordan. She had seen the Children's Hearing and Speech Centre in Washington, D.C., that is for diagnosis, treatment and care of the deaf. She was enthusiastic about having something like that in Jordan."

"She invited a team from that centre to come here and discuss the possibility of it. They found that it could be done. It's a very big project and involves a great deal of fund-raising. This would provide a service not only to the hearing impaired in Jordan, but throughout the Middle East. The King is interested in proceeding with this larger project."

Queen Alia had apparently known a child, the daughter of one of her friends, who suffered from a hearing handicap. She was always keen that something be done for these children. She felt that they should be given care to prepare them for a good life, a decent and constructive life."



Three generations are involved with work for the deaf. Mrs. Hanan Baha'uddin Touqan, mother of the late Queen Alia and president of the Queen Alia Society for the Hearing Impaired, in the Centre's visitors reception room sits under the portrait of her granddaughter Princess Haya, appointed honorary president of the Society with the permission of her father, H.M. King Hussein.



Trainees at the Centre learn to use equipment to check the degree of the students' hearing impairment. The sound-proofed room in which a teacher supervises the testing of a young student and the audiometry equipment, a gift of the Italian government, is ideal for diagnostic purposes.



Mr. Ribhi Jarrar, a 1978 graduate of the University of Jordan with a bachelor's degree in education and psychology, is the only male trainee at the Centre. His young pupil adds the dimension of practical

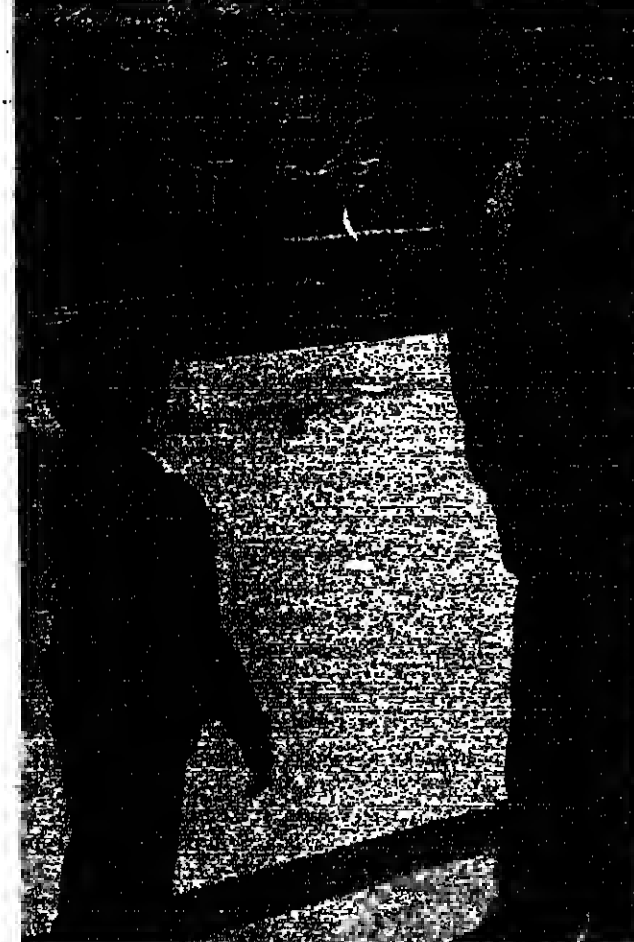
experience to that of theory for the trainees. The 20 children enrolled at the Centre help to teach the teachers as they learn to adapt themselves to a hearing world.



Members of the pilot classes in front of the new Centre in Ruseifeh. Last Sunday His Majesty King Hussein formally inaugurated the institution, with Queen Noor and Princess Haya attending the ceremonies.

Although hearing-impaired children require an exceptional amount of individual attention in learning to communicate, they need the same toys to manipulate as their hearing counterparts. At the Centre they are encouraged to use them and to enjoy them.

An agreement with the Italian government got the Centre for the Hearing Impaired off to a good start. Last month teaching of the teachers began with Giuseppe La Macchia (left) teaching phonetics; Piccolo Nicola (centre), psychology and education; and Beccia Matteo (right), diagnostic work.



Vowels are the same, Arabic or Italian. Mr. Giuseppe La Macchia, Italian expert in the teaching of phonetics, coaches a young student in the pronunciation of an "a" sound. A Jordanian teacher repeats his message in Arabic when he or one of the Italian lecturers gives lectures to the teacher trainees at the



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U.S., China officially exchange envoys

PEKING, March 1 (R) — The American flag today flew over a U.S. embassy on the Chinese mainland for the first time since Dec. 24, 1949.

U.S. Treasury Secretary Michael Blumenthal, representing President Carter at a brief ceremony marking the change of the U.S. Liaison Office in Peking into a full embassy, described it as an occasion of historic significance.

"For too long our people and

our governments have been separated. That separation has ended. We have taken the first step toward a dynamic and fruitful relationship with the People's Republic of China," Mr. Blumenthal said.

The only Chinese at the cere-

Rhodesia reports raid on alleged guerrilla camp in Mozambique

SALISBURY, March 1 (R) — Rhodesian jets today raided a regular army camp in Mozambique which was used by black nationalist guerrillas, military headquarters said.

A communiqué said buildings housing Patriotic Front guerrillas had been attacked inside the camp at Mutarara in northern Mozambique. "All aircraft returned safely to base," it added.

It was the sixth Rhodesian bombing raid into black Africa in 11 days. Planes have attacked what Rhodesia said were guerrilla bases in Zambia, Mozambique and Angola in a bid to forestall a promised Patriotic Front assault on one-man, one-vote elections next month. Zambia has been attacked three times. Mozambique twice and Angola once.

Mozambique is the base for the Zimbabwe African National Liberation Army (ZANLA) of Mr. Robert Mugabe.

Military headquarters said today's raid took place at 0530 GMT on a camp of the Mozambique army Fretilmo at Mutarara, where the railway line from Mozambique to Malawi crosses the Zambezi River about 250 kilometres from Rhodesia's eastern frontier.

It was the first time that the Rhodesians had announced an attack on a Fretilmo base since Dec. 16 when the military command said several camps had been hit in a series of air raids.

A military spokesman said then: "If the Mozambique Government wishes to act as host to forces seeking the overthrow of the transitional government by force, and to provide such forces with accommodation and storage facilities within the confines of Fretilmo bases, then they must be

held responsible for the risks to which such a policy exposes the people of Mozambique."

Today's communiqué stressed that only "selected buildings" within the camp used by ZANLA had been attacked.

Support for guerrillas

In other news, Angola will increase its support for guerrillas fighting the Rhodesian regime following a raid on a training camp in Angola which left almost 200 people dead. Angola's ambassador to Belgium said yesterday.

Ambassador Luis de Almeida told a press conference that Monday's air raid killed 192 Zimbabwean (Rhodesian) refugees and five Angolan civilians.

About 1,000 wounded, 470 seriously, were taken to hospitals in Luanda and Lobito from the camp at Boma in eastern Angola, he added.

"Angola will now increase its support for the Patriotic Front's efforts to overthrow the Smith regime which is clearly desperate and determined to intimidate the frontline states," the ambassador said. "It is time Western countries showed which side they are on, by ceasing to supply these racist regimes with weapons."

The ambassador said that the aircraft which carried out the raid were probably lent to Rhodesia by South Africa. A similar charge was made by Patriotic Front joint-leader Mugabe yesterday.

Mr. Almeida said the Rhodesians used French-built Mirage III fighter-bombers, similar to those delivered to South Africa in 1974-5. The Rhodesian air force did not have such aircraft, he said.

many were employees of the embassy, while the official Chinese attendance at a reception an hour later was at a lower level than had been invited originally.

Embassy sources said Chinese officials were absent from the ceremony because no American officials were invited to a similar event in Washington marking the elevation of the Chinese Liaison Office there to an embassy.

The sources said they saw no evidence to suggest that this might be an indication of Chinese displeasure at the American concern voiced in Peking by Mr. Blumenthal over the Chinese incursion into Vietnam.

The United States has called for the quick withdrawal of Chinese troops from Vietnam and of Vietnamese forces from Kampuchea (Cambodia).

Mr. Blumenthal has expressed satisfaction with the progress of his talks in Peking aimed at ironing out problems hindering expanded commercial contacts and laying the groundwork for a trade agreement and other bilateral pacts.

The United States severed its ties with the nationalist government in Taiwan and established full diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China at the start of the year. It has taken a further two months, however, for the U.S. Liaison Office, opened on June 26, 1973, to attain full embassy status.

The liaison offices in Peking and Washington were set up as a result of the 1972 Shanghai Communiqué signed by former President Nixon and the late Premier Chou En-lai.

Speaking in bright sunshine to a crowd of about 300 embassy officials and their families, American businessmen and journalists in the forecourt of the new embassy, Mr. Blumenthal said it was in the interests of the United States and the world that China succeed in its modernisation plans.

"Our histories and our political and economic systems are different. Yet we can trade together and we can work together for a better world. This new relationship can be of great long-term benefit to the people of both the United States and China," he added.

The last U.S. embassy on mainland China lowered its flag at Chongqing (Chungking) on Dec. 24, 1949, when the embassy reopened on Taiwan.

Last days for Idi Amin?

By David Storey

NAIROBI—The crisis which threatens to end President Idi Amin's rule in Uganda has been brewing since well before last October's eruption of fighting on the Tanzanian border.

Splits in the military, on which the field-marshal relies for power, and the gradual decline of his economy have been endemic to President Amin's eight years of autocratic and widely-criticised rule.

The splits widened last year and the economic prospects dimmed, creating conditions ripe for exploitation by the present invasion from Tanzania and internal resistance movements.

The invasion force, which diplomat sources say is spearheaded by Ugandan exiles and backed by Tanzanian regular ground forces and artillery, has captured a swathe of land in southwest Uganda.

Exile sources say it is moving along the main road towards Kampala after capturing the garrison town of Masaka and besieging Mbarara to the west.

On Tuesday Uganda Radio reported that Ugandan troops had recaptured Masaka from the invasion force, and the exile sources caution against writing off President Amin, who has survived more than 20 assassination attempts.

Earlier they said they expected him to make a stand between Masaka and Kampala, where the road to the capital runs through swampy land. They say he still has strong backing from Moslem and Nubian sections of the army, which he promoted and rewarded to the detriment of other groups.

And they say he may have allowed his position to look worse than it really is to gain sympathy and support from other African states and from his Arab backers.

But there is no doubt the wheel has turned full circle

since his troops occupied 1,860 square kilometres of Tanzania last October and he triumphantly declared all the people there to be subjects of the "conqueror of the British empire"—one of his many self-awarded titles.

He withdrew after international pressure and in the face of a massive Tanzanian military build-up.

In the last month Radio Uganda has reported a gradual occupation of territory in the



President Idi Amin

area west of Lake Victoria culminating in the capture of Masaka, the main market and administrative centre in the region.

Exile sources report growing dissent within once-loyal units of the Ugandan army. Splits in President Amin's closest military circle came to the surface last August when he sacked his finance minister, Mr. Moses Ali. Mr. Ali, a Moslem like the president and from his own home district, enjoyed powerful support among some senior army officers.

General Mustafa Adrisi, the vice-president, was another victim of the field-marshal's suspicions of his inner circle.

The general was seriously injured in a car crash near Kampala last April and flown to Cairo for treatment. On his return he was stripped of his Defence Ministry portfolio.

General Adrisi, a Moslem from the president's Kaskwa

tribe, also has a large following among some army units, particularly in the northwest.

The most vocal internal opposition group, the Save Uganda Movement (SUM) in one of its first statements circulated among the press here last month, indicated support for General Adrisi.

The SUM, which has claimed responsibility for several sabotage attacks including a bombing which temporarily cut electricity supplies to Kampala, has now issued a manifesto. It said: "Amin's regime has seriously undermined the very cause for decolonisation and has made a mockery of the basic principles of African liberation."

"The command of SUM shall recruit, train and arm a small but efficient and highly-disciplined shock force under a unified and democratic leadership," it said.

Ugandan tanks are guarding strategic points in Kampala, including the post office, and President Amin has been even more secretive in his movements than usual, Ugandan sources said.

They said the president, who has inspired loyalty in the majority of forces with his own ebullient charm and by catering to their material needs before those of the civilian public, was facing ever more serious economic problems.

Last autumn the United States, Uganda's main coffee customer, imposed a total trade embargo on Uganda because of alleged human rights violations.

In January the field-marshal quarrelled with his longest-standing backer Libya, after accusing the Arab state of sending weapons to Tanzania during the border fighting.

He made a hasty trip to Saudi Arabia apparently to try to raise financial support, and send envoys to other Arab countries including Iraq and Egypt. There has been no indication whether he was offered what he wanted.

Former Italian official jailed as result of Lockheed bribes scandal

ROME, March 1 (R)—Former Italian defence minister Mr. Mario Tanassi was jailed today for two years and four months for corruption in connection with the \$2 million Lockheed bribes scandal.

Mr. Tanassi, former leader of the small Social Democratic Party and six times a cabinet minister, became the first ex-government member to be sent to jail in post-war Italy.

Christian Democrat Luigi Gui, another ex-defence minister who stood trial with Mr. Tanassi and nine other defendants, was acquitted on similar charges.

The sentence, which is final, was passed by the Constitutional Court, Italy's highest judicial authority which sat for a record 23 days to consider the verdict at the end of the trial, which opened in May last year. The verdict was transmitted live on television.

The court announced only the verdict and sentences. Its full judgment will be made public later this year.

Mr. Tanassi, 63, was stripped of his parliamentary seat for life and banned for two and a half years from holding any public office. He was also ordered to pay a fine of about \$500.

Mr. Gui, who served as a minister in 13 governments, said he was pleased at being acquitted.

In 98 sessions, the Constitutional Court examined alleg-

ations that the Lockheed company paid \$2 million in bribes to Italian officials over the sale of 14 C-130 Hercules transport aircraft in 1969 and 1970.

Lockheed's former Italian consultant, Ovidio Lefebvre, extradited from Brazil last year to stand trial, received a four and a half year jail term, as did a close aide of Mr. Tanassi when he was minister, Bruno Palmiotti.

Mr. Lefebvre's lawyer brother Antonio was sentenced to two years and two months, also on a charge of corruption. The Lefebvres were said to have been the channel through which Lockheed bribed Italian officials.

India's budget includes big taxes for urban consumers, relief for farmers

NEW DELHI, March 1 (R)—The Indian Government yesterday imposed heavy new taxes affecting the rich and urban consumers, but announced generous tax reliefs to farmers in a national budget attacked by the opposition as inflationary.

The new taxes, proposed in the

World News Briefs

Thailand denies aiding Pol Pot regime

BANGKOK, March 1 (R)—Thailand today denied charges by new Hanoi-backed administration in Kampuchea (Cambodia) that it was allowing China to supply arms and food to guerrillas ousted Prime Minister Pol Pot. A spokesman for Prime Minister Kriangsak Chamanand categorically denied the charges made yesterday by the new administration's Foreign Ministry and broadcast by Radio Hanoi. General Kriangsak last night firmly restated government's policy regarding the fighting in Indochina: "We maintain our position of strict neutrality and shall not take sides in the present conflicts."

Swiss bank investigates Iranian holdings

ZURICH, Switzerland, March 1 (R)—The Swiss National Bank yesterday it was investigating the extent of Iranian assets held by Swiss banks following reports of large-scale flight of capital from troubled state. The announcement by a National Bank spokesman followed a demand last week by the new Iranian government in Switzerland freeze all assets held by the exiled Shah in this country. The spokesman said the National Bank had sent a questionnaire to 25 Swiss commercial banks which do most foreign business with them to state the amount of assets they hold belonging to residents. The bank plans to publish the total amount of assets next week, but will give no details of individual accounts as forbidden by Switzerland's banking secrecy law.

U.S. to buy part of arms intended for Iran

WASHINGTON, March 1 (R)—The U.S. Government has agreed to buy \$765 million worth of arms ordered by Iran but sent because of its internal strife. Defence Department officials said today. The purchase was approved by President Carter and is sent to Congress as part of a revised defence spending request for present budget year, which ends on Sept. 30. Under the program, air force will get 55 of the 160 F-16 fighters originally ordered by Iran, and the navy will get two missile destroyers the Iranian ordered. In addition, U.S. military forces will buy more than 100 missiles which were to have gone to Iran.

Moroccan bank workers begin week's strike

CASABLANCA, March 1 (R)—Some 17,000 Moroccan employees began a week-long strike yesterday, shutting down commercial bank operations across the country. Only the country bank, the Bank of Morocco, and the National Bank for Development were operating normally. The strikers want a salary structure, more social benefits, increases in housing, port and year-end bonus payments and changed working hours. Public health services employees have decided to go on strike Wednesday for higher pay while some 10,000 miners are on strike at the Khouiriga phosphate mines.

Less interest in U.S. offshore gas

NEW YORK, March 1 (R)—The U.S. Government yesterday said oil companies another chance to try their luck looking for oil in the Atlantic, but found bidders' interest had waned. The Department received 74 offers and the value of the apparent bids was \$41.7 million for 109 lease tracts off coastal states from New York to Virginia, an area known as the Baltimore Canyon. First lease sale two and a half years ago, 410 bids were received winning bids totalled \$1.13 billion. Yesterday's bidding was that oilmen had lost some of their enthusiasm about the potential after more than a year of activity resulted in no holes—wells that cannot be exploited profitably.

'Father of helicopter' dies in W. Germany

BREMEN, West Germany, March 1 (R)—Professor Heinrich Focke, the "father of the helicopter", has died in Bremen at the age of 79. The FVW-Fokker Aircraft Company, into which Professor Focke-Wulf was incorporated in the 1960s, said the professor died peacefully at his home on Sunday. Ironically, Professor Focke had nothing to do with Focke-Wulf's best known wartime product, the FW-190 fighter and FW-200 Condor, having been forced to leave the firm by Hitler's Nazi regime in the 1930s. Instead he established a new firm, Focke, Achgelis and Company, to concentrate on helicopter development. In 1942 one of his creations reached an all-time record, a helicopter record which stood for 12 years.

2 Norwegians aim to pedal round world in 79 days

LONDON, March 1 (R)—Two Norwegians, one of them a woman, yesterday set off to cycle around the world in 79 days on a bicycle. Blind Tore Næverland, 24, and Mari Vester, 21, Norwegian girl, intend to follow the same route as Phileas Fogg in Jules Verne's book "Around the World in 80 Days". But use a bicycle instead of trains and planes built for the 19th century.

The "biking Vikings" will cycle through France, India, Hong Kong, Japan and the United States. They have one handicapped cyclist from each country cycling through his own country. The campaign is called "bike & hope" and hopes to encourage disabled, paraplegic, mentally and other handicapped people to live fuller lives.

The cyclists will be accompanied by a supply car. United States National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) in Houston, Texas will keep in touch with them daily via special equipment attached to the tandem bicycle. NASA is working on better mobility and communication for the blind using the benefits of space age technology.

Last rites for Himalayan shangri-la?

The slowly-chanted songs, the trumpet music and the sleep-walking dances are giving way to jazz and rock music, and the Tibetan cap and bejewelled perak being replaced by jeans, bobbed hair and shirts. Tourism is making its mark on Ladakh.

By A.J. Singh

LADAKH (JAMMU AND KASHMIR) Time had stood still for centuries in Ladakh—a "Little Tibet" and a shangri-la in the western Himalayas. But six years ago its gates were thrown open to tourists, and this is impelling changes that may well spell doom to the shangri-la's unique culture.

Says Helena Norberg Hodge, who was recently at Ladakh: "It would be particularly tragic if the Ladakhi culture were to be destroyed, since it enshrines so many ideals that most of the world can only envy."

What are they? This 100,000 square kilometres of stony desert is free from crime, violence of any

kind, poverty and disproportionate wealth. Men and women enjoy equal status. Every household is self-sufficient and yet the community is close-knit and a model of cooperation.

"All this looks remarkable, especially when one considers the geoclimatic conditions of Ladakh," says a tourist official.

It is a land of extreme cold where during its eight months of winter the temperature can touch as low as -50 degrees centigrades. "And if there is a biting wind the body feels as cold as -75 degrees centigrades," says T.N. Ninan, another visitor to Ladakh.

Rainfall is scanty, just 100 millimetres a year. Considering that the majority of villages are located at vast distances from each other

and also at altitudes of more than 3,000 to 4,300 metres, "paspu" or cooperation amongst households is a way of life.

Four or five households get together at times of birth, marriage and death under "paspu". At births and marriages the "paspu" provides and prepares food for the celebrations. After a death, it is the "paspu" that arranges the funeral and handles the body, says Helena Norberg Hodge.

Two other institutions—the "chubpon" and "lorapa"—are also unique to Ladakh. Each village appoints these two officials, on a rotation basis, to regulate such matters as the channel irrigation system for fields and to round up and fine the owners of stray animals to prevent crop damage.

But by far the most important aspect of Ladakhi culture has been the system of fraternal polyandry. It means that a woman who marries into a household becomes the wife of all its brothers.

Ladakh has never suffered from the population explosion. The number of people in this region is believed to have remained almost constant for centuries. A great many of the women traditionally become nuns and consequently never marry. Even those who do marry bear few children.

"The Ladakhi culture is primar-

ily domestic and not social," says an observer. "It is essentially conservative and catholic despite the fact that promiscuity is allowed. But promiscuity is practised strictly within the family."

Now, due to modernisation, polyandry is definitely dying out. Only stray cases can be found in remote villages. So is the institution of nunhood. For Ladakh, therefore, the population explosion is probably just round the corner.

In other ways modernisation is also gradually erasing old values. "White bread, white rice, white sugar reach Ladakh in convoys of trucks, and are gradually replacing the much more nourishing indigenous diet," says Helena Norberg Hodge.

"More strikingly, Ladakhis can be seen carting around buckets of water, in order to fill rooftop tanks to flush lavatories for the tourists. The waste water can now only pollute, instead of providing much-needed night-soil fertilisers for the land, as do the water free toilets of the Ladakhis themselves."

Mr. Eliezer Jolden, a former headmaster who runs a ten-bed guest house, says that the tourists have benefited Ladakh economically. "But there are signs of the commercialisation of values," he adds.

This is particularly noticeable in the field of religion. A century ago, there were more than 12,000 Lamas (monks) in the monasteries of Ladakh. "Today there are hardly 1,200," says M.L. Maltoo, Principal, Buddhist Philosophy, Leh (Ladakh).

The worst aspect of tourism is that even some monks are yielding to the temptation of making a fast buck. Several monasteries (Gompas) around Leh are levying entrance fees from visitors. "The tourists don't mind paying fixed fees," says a Western observer at Leh. "But when some greedy monks raise these charges abnormally or pester for donations, it not only annoys the visitors but is also a sad commentary on the dilution of values among the monks who had hitherto never bothered about material wealth."

It is also alleged that some precious objects of art in the monasteries have found their way abroad. "How this could come about without connivance of some monks in the monasteries would be very difficult to explain," says an observer at Leh.

The bazars of Leh are full of traders, mostly Tibetan refugees peddling curios, hardly any of which are of Ladakhi origin.

Some people are distressed to see at Leh how the quiet, som-

ber, seclusive culture of Ladakh seems to be fast going into the melting pot. "The staid gait, the low-pitched voice, the all-enveloping woolen, ankle-length *goancha*, Tibetan cap, and bejewelled *perak* are steadily giving way to jeans, bobbed hair, shirt and trousers," says an educated Ladakhi.

"The slow-chant songs, trumpet music, and sleep-walking dances, so in tune with the atmosphere and the snow and stone environment are being edged out of fashion by jazz and rock music and Western dances," he said.

Whether Ladakh can be kept like a shangri-la despite the tourists is hard to imagine. It looks anachronous. Closed to visitors for centuries, last year more than 10,000 tourists flocked to see this forbidden land.

They come by air (50 minutes from Amala or Chandigarh to Leh by Russian AN-12 transport plane) and the 450-kilometre-long highway linking Srinagar with Leh (June to mid-October, the tourist season). With them come new ideas and values.

The moral one draws is that if you want to see pristine Ladakh in all its glory and quaint culture, see it now, before tourism pollutes it.

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